

REMARKS

The specification (including the Abstract) of the patent application has been rewritten to comply with U.S. patent practice. This involved reformatting the specification, for example, to include appropriate section headings. No new matter has been introduced.

A substitute specification marked to show changes made relative to the original specification (i.e., the English translation of International Application PCT/EP2004/0011321 filed with the PTO on May 12, 2006) is attached hereto. The substitute specification includes no new matter. A clean version (without markings) of the substitute specification is also attached.

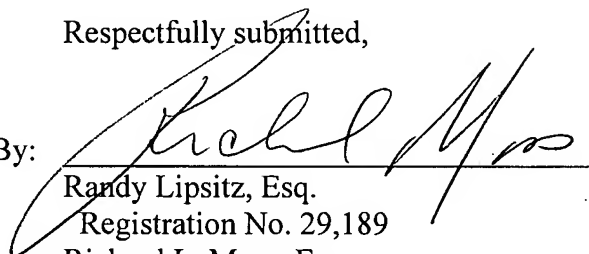
Claims 1-15 were originally presented. Claims 1-15 have been amended to place them in appropriate U.S. patent claim format. New dependent claim 16 has been added. No new matter has been introduced.

Applicants respectfully request that this Preliminary Amendment be entered prior to substantive examination of this patent application.

No fee is believed due. Please charge any fee deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

Respectfully submitted,

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